

**PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT**

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LOS ANGELES/OXNARD CA  
500 AM PDT THU MAY 5 2011

...SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA WEATHER SUMMARY FOR APRIL 2011...

APRIL WAS VERY DRY ACROSS MOST OF THE SOUTHLAND. ALTHOUGH RAINFALL TYPICALLY DROPS OFF SIGNIFICANTLY ACROSS THE REGION IN APRIL...MOST LOCATIONS IN SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA IN APRIL 2011 RECEIVED 10 PERCENT OR LESS OF THEIR NORMAL RAINFALL. THE EXCEPTION WAS ACROSS NORTHERN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY...AND IN THE MOUNTAINS AND DESERTS...WHERE RAINFALL AVERAGED 20 TO 40 PERCENT OF NORMAL. AT LANCASTER AIRPORT...A THUNDERSTORM PRODUCED ENOUGH RAINFALL TO SURPASS THE MONTHLY NORMAL AT THAT LOCATION.

TEMPERATURES FOR THE MONTH AVERAGED NEAR NORMAL TO ABOUT 2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL...EXCEPT SLIGHTLY BELOW NORMAL IN THE MOUNTAINS. ON A FEW DAYS IN APRIL...THERE WERE LIGHT FREEZES IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AND THE INTERIOR VALLEYS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES.

THE MONTH STARTED OFF ON A VERY WARM NOTE...WITH HIGH TEMPERATURES BETWEEN 85 AND 90 DEGREES ON THE 1ST IN MANY COASTAL AND VALLEY LOCATIONS.

A TROUGH MOVED THROUGH THE REGION ON THE 2ND...BRINGING STRONG ONSHORE FLOW AND A RETURN TO NIGHT THROUGH MORNING LOW CLOUDS AND FOG. HIGH TEMPERATURES WERE 15 TO 20 DEGREES LOWER ON THE 2ND THAN ON THE 1ST IN MANY LOCATIONS.

ON THE 4TH...HIGH PRESSURE DROPPING INTO THE GREAT BASIN BROUGHT SOME GUSTY OFFSHORE WINDS TO THE MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS OF VENTURA AND LOS ANGELES COUNTIES. PEAK WIND GUSTS INCLUDED 58 MPH AT WHITAKER PEAK...55 MPH AT WILEY RIDGE...51 MPH AT WARM SPRINGS... AND 36 MPH AT SIMI VALLEY AND DEL VALLE.

A COLD UPPER LOW DROPPED THROUGH THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND INTO CALIFORNIA ON THE 7TH. ITS ASSOCIATED FRONTAL SYSTEM BROUGHT SOME SHOWERS TO AREAS NORTH OF POINT CONCEPTION...TO PORTIONS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY...AND TO THE MOUNTAINS AND ANTELOPE VALLEY. SOME CONVECTIVE SHOWERS DEVELOPED IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY...AND BROUGHT SMALL HAIL AND HEAVY RAIN TO SOME AREAS...INCLUDING LANCASTER AIRPORT WHICH RECEIVED 0.49 INCHES OF RAIN ON THE 7TH. THAT WAS ENOUGH TO MAKE APRIL 7TH 2011 THE 5TH WETTEST APRIL DAY IN HISTORY AT LANCASTER AIRPORT.

IN ADDITION TO THE SHOWERS...GUSTY SOUTH TO WEST WINDS DEVELOPED ACROSS THE REGION AHEAD THE FRONT. PEAK WIND GUSTS INCLUDED 56 MPH AT LAKE PALMDALE...48 MPH AT SADDLEBACK BUTTE...47 MPH AT CHEESEBORO...46 MPH AT POPPY PARK...44 MPH AT LANCASTER AIRPORT...40 MPH AT PALMDALE AIRPORT AND 37 MPH AT OXNARD AIRPORT.

THE UPPER LOW LINGERED ACROSS LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON THE 8TH... BRINGING SCATTERED SHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS TO THE REGION. SOME SNOW WAS REPORTED IN THE MOUNTAINS AT VERY LOW ELEVATIONS FOR APRIL...DOWN IN THE 2000 TO 2500 FOOT RANGE. THE 8TH WAS A VERY CHILLY DAY FOR APRIL...WITH HIGH TEMPERATURES REMAINING IN THE 50S...EVEN IN MOST COASTAL AND VALLEY LOCATIONS.

SOME RAINFALL TOTALS ACROSS THE REGION ON THE 7TH AND 8TH INCLUDED

0.49 INCHES AT LANCASTER AIRPORT...0.36 INCHES AT FIGUEROA MOUNTAIN...0.34 INCHES AT POPPY PARK...0.32 INCHES AT WHITE LEDGE PEAK AND ROCKY BUTTE...0.31 INCHES AT SHANDON...0.29 INCHES AT BUELLTON...0.27 INCHES AT PASO ROBLES AIRPORT...0.23 INCHES AT SOLVANG...0.20 INCHES AT SAN GABRIEL DAM AND AT REFUGIO PASS...0.17 INCHES AT OPIDS CAMP AND MOUNT BALDY...0.16 INCHES AT SANDBERG...LOCKWOOD VALLEY...WEST BIG PINE AND SAN LUIS OBISPO AIRPORT...AND 0.15 INCHES AT LOMPOC.

SEVERAL RECORD LOW TEMPERATURES WERE SET ON THE 8TH AND 9TH. ON THE 8TH...THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 36 DEGREES AT CAMARILLO AIRPORT BROKE A RECORD FOR THE DATE. AT SANDBERG...THE LOW OF 22 DEGREES NOT ONLY BROKE A RECORD FOR THE DATE...BUT ALSO TIED A RECORD FOR THE ANY DATE IN APRIL. LOWS OF 22 DEGREES HAVE BEEN RECORDED AT SANDBERG IN APRIL ON JUST TWO OTHER DATES...APRIL 19TH 1967 AND APRIL 21ST 1971. LOWS OF 32 DEGREES AT PALMDALE AIRPORT...33 DEGREES AT SAN LUIS OBISPO CAL POLY AND 44 DEGREES AT SANTA MONICA AIRPORT TIED DAILY RECORDS.

ON THE 9TH...LOW TEMPERATURES OF 29 DEGREES AT LANCASTER AIRPORT AND 36 DEGREES AT CAMARILLO AIRPORT ESTABLISHED NEW DAILY RECORDS...WHILE LOWS OF 28 DEGREES AT PALMDALE AIRPORT...41 DEGREES AT UCLA AND 43 DEGREES AT LONG BEACH AIRPORT TIED DAILY RECORDS.

ON THE 13TH...HIGH PRESSURE BUILDING ACROSS NORTHERN AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA PRODUCED A TIGHT NORTH TO SOUTH PRESSURE GRADIENT ACROSS THE REGION. THIS RESULTED IN SOME GUSTY NORTHWEST TO NORTH WINDS... PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE INTERSTATE 5 CORRIDOR...PORTIONS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AND THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY. PEAK WIND GUSTS INCLUDED 78 MPH AT WHITAKER PEAK...52 MPH AT SAUGUS...47 MPH AT POPPY PARK AND LANCASTER AIRPORT...46 MPH AT SANDBERG...AND 44 MPH AT NEWHALL PASS.

ON THE 15TH AND 16TH...SHARP NORTH TO SOUTH PRESSURE GRADIENTS DEVELOPED ACROSS THE REGION AGAIN...BRINGING LOCALLY DAMAGING NORTH WINDS TO PORTIONS OF THE SOUTHLAND. PEAK WIND GUSTS INCLUDED 81 MPH AT WHITAKER PEAK...67 MPH AT MONTECITO HILLS...53 MPH AT CAMP NINE...52 MPH AT MALIBU HILLS...51 MPH AT SANDBERG...45 MPH AT CHEESEBORO...AND 37 MPH AT NEWHALL PASS.

THE COMBINATION OF THE NORTHERLY FLOW AND STRONG HIGH PRESSURE ALOFT BROUGHT VERY WARM CONDITIONS TO MANY COASTAL AND VALLEY LOCATIONS...WITH HIGHS NEAR OR A BIT ABOVE 90 DEGREES IN SOME OF THE WARMER SPOTS. THE HIGH TEMPERATURE OF 91 DEGREES IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES ON THE 16TH ESTABLISHED A NEW RECORD FOR THE DATE.

ON THE 21ST...A WEAK COLD FRONT BROUGHT SOME LIGHT RAIN TO THE SOUTHLAND...ESPECIALLY TO AREAS NORTH OF POINT CONCEPTION. SOME RAINFALL TOTALS INCLUDED 0.31 INCHES AT ROCKY BUTTE...0.24 INCHES AT CAMBRIA...0.22 INCHES AT MORRO BAY...0.19 INCHES AT UPPER TORO CREEK...0.18 INCHES AT SAN LUIS HARBOR...0.16 INCHES AT OCEANO...0.12 INCHES AT NIPOMO AND LAKE LOPEZ AND 0.10 INCHES AT LOMPOC.

TWO MORE WEAK FRONTAL SYSTEMS PUSHED THROUGH THE REGION...ONE LATE ON THE 22ND AND EARLY ON THE 23RD...AND ANOTHER LATE ON THE 23RD INTO THE 24TH. BOTH SYSTEMS BROUGHT SOME LIGHT RAIN TO PORTIONS OF SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA...MAINLY FROM VENTURA COUNTY NORTHWARD. WHERE MEASURABLE RAIN WAS REPORTED...AMOUNTS WERE GENERALLY ONE TENTH OF AN INCH OR LESS WITH EACH SYSTEM...ALTHOUGH WITH THE SECOND SYSTEM...WHITE LEDGE PEAK REPORTED 0.27 INCHES OF RAIN...WHILE

